malnutrition predisposes to early cataract but there is no unequivocal proof that deficiency of vitamin B2 results in cataract.

(b) Sub-clinical deficiency is seen in over 90 per cent of low income group adults and children.

(c) While conducting nutrition education which is component of many health programmes, a balanced diet is advocated which would take care of riboflavin requirements also.

Wages of the employees of Defence Services Officers institute, Dhaula Kuan

1652. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL): Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 400 employees of Defence Services Officers Institute, Dhaula Kuan, are getting Rs. 15/- per head as their wages, which is quite below the rate of daily wages prescribed by Government, if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these employees are forced to go on strike to meet their demand of increased wages and other facilities; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being taken by Government to fulfil their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) Defence Services Officers Institute, Dhaula Kuan is not a Government organisation and its employees are not Government servants. Demands of any, of the employees of the Institute have to be settled between the employer and employees in accordance with law.

Setting up of CPT unit in Andhra Pradesh

1653. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister has written a letter dated 14th April, 1989 to the Central Government requesting for according early clearance in the Foreign Collaboration proposal of the colour picture tube unit of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes Sir, a letter dated 4th April, 1989 from Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh addressed to the Union Minister for Industries had been received regarding the proposal of M|s. Andhra Pradesh Electronics Development Corporation (APEDC) Limited for manufacture of Colour Picture Tubes (CPTs).

(b) A composite proposal for expansion of capacity and foreign collaboration from M/s. APEDC for manufacture of CPT was not accepted by the Government of India vide letter dated 14-10-1988. M/s. APEDC represented against the decision vide their letter dated 9-12-1988. The letter from Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was in support of the representation of M/s. APEDC. Meanwhile the collaborator of M/s. APEDC namely, M/s. Philips, Holland have informed that they have withdrawn their offer of collaboration with M/s. APEDC and have terminated all its past arrangements with APEDC for technology transfer for manufacture of Colour Picture Tubes.

Promotion of Sophisticated software

1654. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Indian Software companies are tying up with the latest generation software companies abroad to pro-

vide a quantum jumps in computational power and capabilities with existing hardware for Indian utilities and for promoting a Sophisticated level of software exports; if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONIC AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): As per the policy on the Computer Software Export, Software Development and Training announced in December, 1986, foreign collaboration and/or foreign investment in software development activity for exports and/or domestic markets will be permitted as per provisions of FERA. Software development for domestic market will be permitted to wholly owned Indian companies and companies having foreign equity upto 40 per cent. Companies with foreign equity exceeding 40 per cent will be permitted only for 100 per cent export projects.

Under the frame work of the above policy, about sixteen foreign collaborations have been approved by the Government of India in the area of Computer Software.

Exploring possibilities for Manuacture by commercial plants

1655. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state whether an expert group has been set up by the Planning Commission to explore the possibilities of undertaking manufacture of commercial planes within the country; if so, what are its findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): Yes, Sir. A group has been set up by the Planning Commission to study the prospects of manufacture of civilian aircrafts and components in the country.

The group has not completed its work.

STD faclities in Nagaland

1656. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a major part of Nagaland including the Mon and Tuensung districts do not have any STD facilities;

(b) whether the norms for introducing STD Electronic Exchanges and improving the telephone facilities through microwave system are not being applied with the same vigour in Nagaland as in other States; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when the border districts of Nagaland are likely to be provided with STD facilities and the Electronic exchanges would be set up in different towns of that States; and

(d) the details of the schemes formulated if any, till date, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Uniform norms are being applied throughout the country including Nagaland.

(c) and (d) One district in Nagaland is now provided with STD facility. The remaining six district headquarters are likely to be provided with STD facility by March, 1990.

At five stations in Nagaland Electronic Exchange, have been commissioned. Electronic exchange facility is planned to be extended to six other stations by 1990-91. 8 Digital radio links are also planned to be commissioned during 1990-91.

Government Hospitals

1657. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Government Hospitals in the country and beds provid-